

Patent claims

1. A rotary/pushbutton actuator having an annular rotary encoder (5) which has an inner ring and a rotary ring, which  
5 can be rotated about an axis (z) around the inner ring and has a dial (1), and is arranged such that it can be moved linearly with respect to a housing (11) along the axis (z), and having an inner part which is arranged in an interior space (12) in the annular rotary encoder (5) and can be moved together with  
10 the annular rotary encoder (5) with respect to the housing (11) linearly along the axis (z), it being possible to initiate a momentary-contact function by moving the dial (1) and/or the inner part, characterized in that
- the rotary encoder (5) and the inner part are arranged in  
15 a pot-like guide element (7) which can be moved linearly along the axis (z),
  - the inner ring of the rotary encoder (5) is arranged in the guide element (7) such that it is secured in terms of rotation,
  - 20 - the rotary encoder (5) and the inner part are connected to the guide element (7) such that they cannot move along the axis (z), and
  - the guide element (7) for implementing the momentary-contact function acts on a momentary-contact switch (9).
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2. The rotary/pushbutton actuator as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the inner part has a touch pad (2).
3. The rotary/pushbutton actuator as claimed in claim 1 or 2,  
30 characterized by at least one restoring element (10) which acts on the guide element (7).
4. The rotary/pushbutton actuator as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that

a holding cylinder (4) which holds the touch pad (2) is integrally connected in the interior space (12) such that it is secure in terms of rotation or rotates with it.

5 5. The rotary/pushbutton actuator as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the momentary-contact switch (9) is arranged on a printed circuit board (8) which extends perpendicular to the axis (z), and the guide element (7) has a base area which extends parallel to the printed  
10 circuit board (8) and acts on the momentary-contact switch.

6. An operator control unit for a motor vehicle component, characterized in that the operator control unit contains a rotary/pushbutton actuator (13) as claimed in one of the  
15 preceding claims.

7. The operator control unit as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that it is arranged in an extension of an armrest of a vehicle seat.  
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8. The operator control unit as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a plurality of operator control keys (14) are arranged radially around the rotary/pushbutton actuator (13).